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penetration would be required from the Soviet air traffic control center before the aircraft passed through the Soviet layer. Such a situation would be even more serious than that now pertaining, since we would be admitting that a guarantee of flight safety from the Soviet would be required and we could claim no right to fly through their layer without one. Under such circumstances the high level reserved altitudes for Western flights would become a tunnel with only one enterance, i.e. at the Federal Republic border. On the other hand, the Soviets would be unaffected by any such layering since they need not observe corridor boundaries and hence would have unlimited access to their layer up to the Federal Republic boundaries.

If Department concurs with above analysis and conclusions, Embassy recommends Department seek tripertite agreement eliminate reserved altitudes as possible solution.

TIMBERLAKE

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